

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 05351 01 OF 02 201435Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
SSM-05 IO-14 AID-05 /089 W  
-----129424 201452Z /43

O 201318Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7338  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST UNN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY SAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TEL AVIV 5351

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PBOR, IS, US, OVIP (BEGIN, MENAHEM)  
SUBJECT: BEGIN'S PEACE PLAN CRITICIZED IN KNESSET

REF: TEL AVIV 5291

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE KNESSET DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE DISCUSSED ON JULY 19 THE DOCUMENT CONTAINING  
THE PEACE PLAN WHICH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WAS TO PRESENT  
THAT DAY TO PRESIDENT CARTER. THE DOCUMENT WAS SHARPLY  
CRITICIZED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF BOTH OPPOSITION AND  
COALITION. END SUMMARY

1. THE DOCUMENT CONTAINING PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S PEACE  
PLAN, WHICH HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE CABINET LAST WEEK,  
WAS READ (IN ENGLISH) TO THE MEMBERS OF THE KNESSET  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 05351 01 OF 02 201435Z

DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE BY COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN MOSHE ARENS. (SOME OBSERVERS INTERPRET  
THIS TO MEAN THAT FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN DID NOT  
ATTACH MUCH SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DOCUMENT, RECALLING  
THAT WHEN DAYAN WAS MINISTER OF DEFENSE HE OFTEN  
HAD A CHIEF OF STAFF OR OTHER OFFICERS PRESENT  
DOCUMENTS WHICH HE CONSIDERED TO BE OF SECONDARY

IMPORTANCE.)

2. COMMITTEE MEMBERS CRITICIZED THE DOCUMENT SHARPLY, BOTH FOR ITS CONTENTS AND FOR THE FACT THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED BY THE PRIME MINISTER HIMSELF. BEGIN HAD DISCUSSED THE PAPER IN GENERAL TERMS LAST WEEK WITH THE COMMITTEE AND SAID HE WOULD RETURN FOR A FURTHER DISCUSSION BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE BUT DID NOT DO SO. COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE ALSO DISSATISFIED WITH THE FACT THAT THE DOCUMENT WAS MADE KNOWN TO THEM ONLY TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS BEFORE BEGIN WAS TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THAT THEY HAD THUS BEEN GIVEN NO OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE THE NATURE OF ITS CONTENTS.

3. PRESS REPORTING OF THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS AND OF THE DOCUMENT IS WIDESPREAD AND GENERALLY DETAILED ENOUGH TO INDICATE THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS HAVE DISCUSSED THE DOCUMENT AND THEIR VIEWS OF IT WITH REPORTERS. ACCORDING TO THOSE PRESS REPORTS THE DOCUMENT IS COMPOSED OF ESSENTIALLY THREE PARTS: THE OPENING SECTION DEALS WITH THE HISTORY OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, THE SECOND SECTION DISCUSSES ISRAEL'S READINESS FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND THE WAY IN WHICH THOSE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED, AND THE THIRD PART DEALS WITH THE  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 05351 01 OF 02 201435Z

WITHDRAWAL ISSUE. THE DOCUMENT EXPRESSES READINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN A GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE BASIS OF SC 242 BUT DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY ACCEPT THE RESOLUTION. IT PROPOSES THAT A JOINT OPENING SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE BE FOLLOWED BY SPLITTING UP INTO THREE COMMITTEES (AS GOLAN HAD REPORTED IN HIS ARTICLE YESTERDAY -- SEE REFTEL. IT ALSO PROPOSES TWO ALTERNATIVES FOR NEGOTIATIONS IF THE GENEVA TALKS BREAK DOWN: TALKS MEDIATED BY THE U.S. OR RHODES-STYLE PROXIMITY TALKS.

4. SPECIFIC CRITICISM BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOCUSED ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- A) NO STATEMENT APPEARS IN THE DOCUMENT SAYING THAT THE JORDAN IS ISRAEL'S EASTERN DEFENSE BORDER. THE STATEMENT THAT THERE WILL BE NO FOREIGN RULE ON THE WEST BANK IS UNCLEAR.

-- B) THE DOCUMENT DOES NOT EXPRESS A READINESS FOR WITHDRAWAL ON THE WEST BANK ALTHOUGH IT DOES

SPECIFICALLY STATE THAT ISRAEL IS READY TO WITHDRAW

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 05351 02 OF 02 201435Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
SSM-05 IO-14 AID-05 /089 W  
-----129405 201451Z /43

O 201318Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7339  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST UNN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 TEL AVIV 5351

ON THE SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN FRONTS. BEGIN SHOULD  
HAVE EXPRESSED ONLY A GENERAL READINESS FORV  
TERRITORIAL COMPROMISE WITHOUT DETAIL.

-- C) TO EXPRESS READINESS FOR SIGNIFICANT  
WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SINAI IS SUPERFLUOUS BECAUSE  
OF THE SIZE OF THE AREA. THE DOCUMENT SHOULD LINK  
A READINESS FOR WITHDRAWAL WITH THE GAINS ISRAEL  
EXPECTS TO ATTAIN IN EXCHANGE.

-- D) BEGIN LEFT THE GOVERNMENT SOME YEARS AGO  
BECAUSE HE COULD NOT AGREE TO NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT  
A WITHDRAWAL BUT NOW HE USES THWT WORD IN THIS  
DOCUMENT. A WEEK AGO HE ASKED THE COMMITTEE NOT  
TO USE THE TERM "TERRITORIAL COMPROMISES" BUT NOW  
HE USES THE WORD "WITHDRAWAL" IN A CONTEXT FAR  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 05351 02 OF 02 201435Z

MORE SERIOUS THAN THE WORD "COMPROMISE."

-- E) THE TOUGH POSITION ON THE SUBJECT OF THE WEST BANK AND THE ABSENCE OF ANY MENTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM WILL MAKE A CONVENING OF GENEVA EGOTIATIONS IMPOSSIBLE. THE OCUMENT CAN LEAD ONLY TOSEPARATE INTERIM AGREEMENTS WITH EGYPT AND SYRIA OR TO A CONFRONTATION.

-- F) THE READINESS TO HAVE PROXIMITY NEGOTIA-TIONS WOULD PLACE THE TASK OF MIDDLEMAN IN THE HANDS OF THE UN WHOSE STAND IN RECENT YEARS HAS BEEN ONE SIDED AND ANTI-ISRAEL.

-- G) IT IS EVPDENT THAT THE DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED WITHOUT EXPERT CONSULTATIONS AND IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION REGARDING ITS POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS.

5. COALITION MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE DID NOT DEFEND THE DOCUMENT. DYAN HIMSELF MERELY SAID THAT IT WAS INTENDED TO BE ONLY AN OPENING PROPOSAL TO CLARIFY ISRAELS POSITIN. OPPOSITION MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WHO CRITICIZED THE DOCUMENT INCLUDED: RABIN, ALLON, PERES, EBAN, ZADOK AND NAVON. TAMIR FROM THE DMC, ROM OF THE LIKUD AND MELAMED FROM THE NRP ALSO WERE CRITICAL. DIFFERENT MEMBERS CALLED THE DOCUMENT "PRIMITIVE, NAIV, AND AMATEURISH."

6. DELIBERATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE SUPPOSED TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.IT IS OBVIOUS FROM THE EXTENSIVE PRESS COVERAGE THAT MASSIVE LEADKING HAS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 05351 02 OF 02 201435Z

OCCURRED AND THIS MAY WELL CAUSE A STRONG REACTION BY BEGIN OR DAYAN, OR BOTH.THE PRIME MINISTER UNDOUBTEDLY WILL FEEL THAT HE HAS BEEN UNDERCUT BY PUBLIC CRITICISM ON THIS PROPOSAL ON THE DAY HE PRESENTED IT TO THE PRESIDENT. DUNNIGAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DOCUMENTS, PEACE PLANS, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMMITTEES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 20-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TELAV05351  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770257-1065  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770736/aaaabexw.tel  
**Line Count:** 218  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 3cf86d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TEL AVIV 5291  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1798265  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BEGIN'S PEACE PLAN CRITICIZED IN KNESSET  
**TAGS:** PBOR, OVIP, IS, US, (BEGIN, MENAHEM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/3cf86d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009